

National Preparedness Month



How Prepared at YOU?

www.ready.gov

Learning Management System

- Why? To track volunteer hours
- www.idahoprepares.com
- Volunteer Center
- Complete application process
- Indicate “medical” or “non-medical” volunteer
- Call Michelle @ 239-5207 if you need help with this.

Shelter-in-Place

Medical Reserve Corps
September 11, 2008



Definition

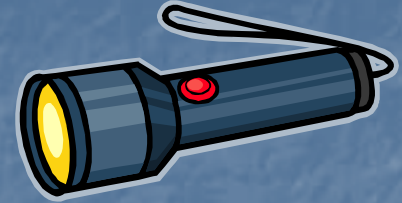
- "Shelter-in-place" means to take immediate shelter where you are—home, work, school or in between—usually for just a few hours.
- Local authorities may instruct you to "shelter-in-place" if chemical or radiological contaminants are released into the environment.



How to Shelter-in-Place

- Choose a room in your house or apartment for the shelter.
 - The BEST room to use for the shelter is a room with a few windows and doors as possible.
 - A large room with a water supply is BEST – something like a master bedroom that is connected to a bathroom.

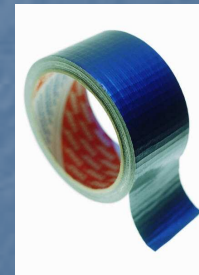
Items to have stored in the room



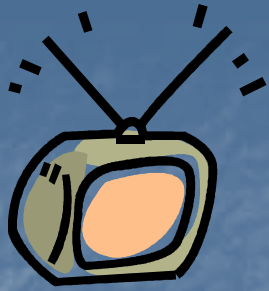
- First aid kit
- Flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries for both
- A working telephone
- Food and bottled water – store 1 gallon of water per person in plastic bottles as well as ready-to-eat foods that will keep without refrigeration in the shelter-in-place room
- Other items – books, kids games, or candy

Items to have stored in the room

- Water issues – If you do not have bottled water, or if you run out, you can drink water from the toilet tank ONLY and do not drink water from the tap.
- Duct tape and scissors
- Towels and plastic sheeting.



NOTE: You may wish to cut your plastic sheeting to fit your windows and doors before any emergency occurs.



How will you know you need to Shelter-in-Place?

- Most likely you will only need to shelter for a few hours – depending on the event.
- If there is a “code red” or “severe” terror alert, you should pay attention to the radio and TV broadcasts to know right away whether a shelter-in-place is announced for your area.
- You will hear from the local police, emergency coordinators, or government on the radio and on TV emergency broadcasts if you need to shelter-in-place.

What do you do when you receive an alert?

- Act quickly and follow instructions of your local emergency coordinators. NOTE: Every situation may be different, so local emergency coordinator might have special instructions for you to follow.
 - Go inside as quickly as possible. Bring any outdoor pets indoors.
 - If there is time, shut and lock all outside doors and windows. Locking them may pull the door or window tight and make a better seal against the chemical.

What to do? Cont.

- Turn off all AC and heating systems
- Turn off all fans
- Close the fireplace damper and any other place the air can come in from outside.
- Go in the shelter-in-place room and shut the door.
- Turn on the radio. Keep a telephone close at hand, but don't use it unless there is a serious emergency.
- Tape plastic over any windows in the room. Use duct tape around windows and doors and make an unbroken seal. Use the tape over vents into the room and seal any electrical outlets or other openings.

What to do? Cont.



- If you are away from your shelter-in-place location when a chemical event or disaster occurs, follow the instructions of emergency coordinators to find the nearest shelter.
- If your children are at school, they will be sheltered there.
- Listen to the radio for an announcement indicating that it is safe to leave the shelter.

5 Steps to Follow

1. Go inside immediately – including all people and pets
2. Close and lock all doors and windows tightly and quickly
3. Shut off all ventilation systems – AC, heating and fans – close damper
4. Go into a sealed room and cover all vents
5. Turn on radio – this is your link to the outside world.

At WORK

- Close the business
- Provide for the safety of employees and customers by asking them to stay – NOT leave
- Contact families to inform them of the situation
- Follow the 5 steps

At School

- Close the school
- Activate the school's emergency plan
- Follow reverse evacuation procedures and bring students, faculty and staff indoors.
- Provide for answering phone inquiries
- If children have cell phones, allow them to call a parent or guardian
- Follow the 5 steps for shelter-in-place

Resources

- www.Ready.gov National Preparedness Month 2008
- Center for Disease Control (CDC)
www.bt.cdc.gov/planning/shelteringfacts.asp
- Sheltering in Place www.SouthCentralPartnership.org
- American Red Cross
www.red.org/services/disaster/beprepared/shelterinplace.html